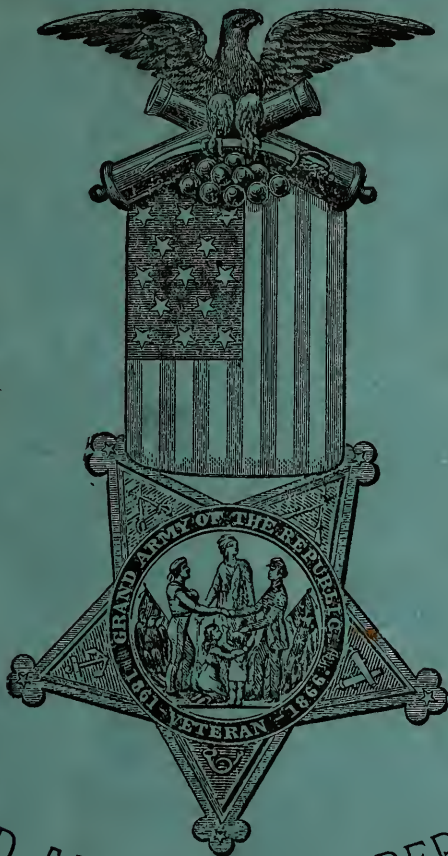


# RULES AND REGULATIONS

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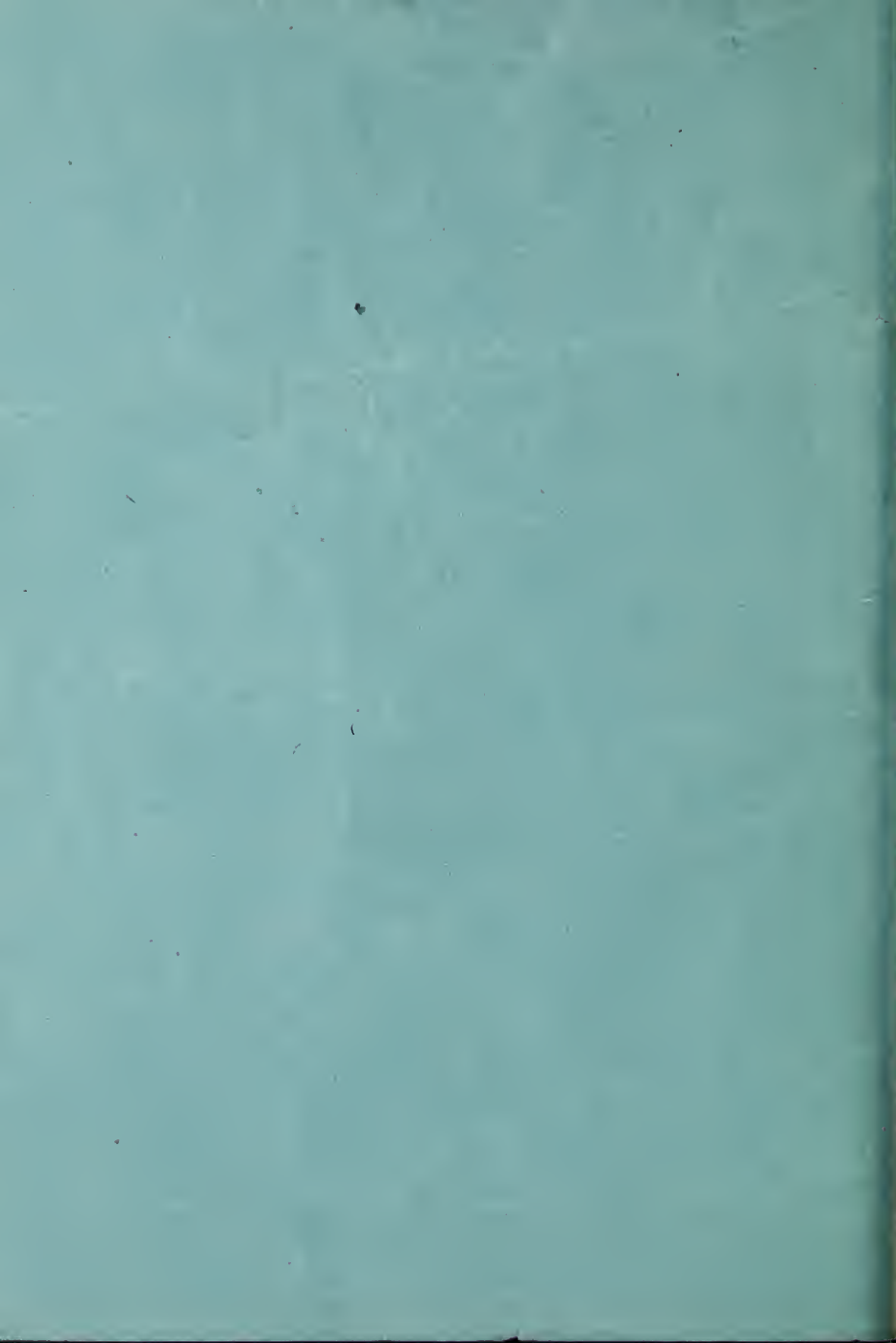
Rules of Order of the National Encampment,



1887.

1887.

## GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.



# RULES AND REGULATIONS

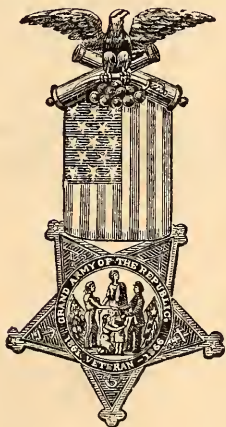
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE

# Grand Army of the Republic.

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*RULES OF  
ORDER*

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*NATIONAL  
ENCAMPMENT.*

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← 1887 →

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HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,  
OCTOBER, 1887.

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TOWN PRINT,  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

# RULES AND REGULATIONS.

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WE, the soldiers and sailors, and honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States, who have consented to this Union, having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity and supremacy of the National Government during the late Rebellion, do unite to establish a permanent association for the object hereinafter set forth ; and, through our National Encampment, do ordain and establish the following Rules and Regulations for the government of this association.

## CHAPTER I.

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### ARTICLE I.

#### TITLE.

This association shall be known as the GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

### ARTICLE II.

#### OBJECTS.

The objects to be accomplished by this organization are as follows :—

1. To preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together the soldiers, sailors, and marines who united to suppress the late Rebellion, and to perpetuate the memory and history of the dead.

2. To assist such former comrades in arms as need help and protection, and to extend needful aid to the widows and orphans of those who have fallen.

3. To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for, and fidelity to, its Constitution and laws, to discountenance whatever tends to weaken loyalty, incites to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or in any manner impairs the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions; and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men.

### ARTICLE III.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The several constituted bodies of this association shall consist of:

1. Precinct organizations to be known as . . . Post No. . . Department of\* . . . , Grand Army of the Republic: *Provided, however,* That no Post shall be named after any living person, and that not more than one Post in a Department shall adopt the same name, and that the name shall be approved by the Department Commander.

2. State organization to be known as Department of\* . . . Grand Army of the Republic.

3. A national organization to be known as the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP.

Soldiers and Sailors of the United States Army, Navy, or Marine Corps, who served between April 12th, 1861, and April 9th, 1865, in the war for the suppression of the Rebellion, and those having been honorably discharged therefrom after such service, and of such State regiments as were called into active service and subject to the orders of U. S. General Officers, between the dates mentioned, shall be eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. No person shall be eligible to membership who has at any time borne arms against the United States.

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\* The name of the State or Territory is to be here inserted.

## CHAPTER II.

### POSTS.

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#### ARTICLE I.

##### FORMATION.

SECTION 1. A Post may be formed by the authority of a Department Commander, or of the Commander-in-Chief (where no Department organization exists), on the application of not less than ten persons eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic ; and no Post shall be recognized by the members of the Grand Army of the Republic unless acting under a legal and unforfeited charter.

SEC. 2. No charter shall be surrendered by any Post so long as ten members thereof demand its continuance ; nor unless a proposition to surrender the charter shall have been made at a stated meeting at least four weeks before the time of action, and due notice given to every member of the Post. (See Article IV., Section 4.)

SEC. 3. A Post disbanded, whether before or since the annual session of the National Encampment in 1869, may be re-organized with its original name and number, provided that these shall not have been appropriated. In such re-organization a new charter shall be issued, bearing the names of the new as well as the old members petitioning therefor.

SEC. 4. The rank of Posts shall be determined by the date of the charter under which they are acting.

#### ARTICLE II.

##### ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Every application for admission to membership shall be in writing, and shall give in detail, upon the blanks furnished by the National Headquarters, the applicant's age, birth-place, residence, occupation, date and rank when entering the service, and his rank at the time of his discharge (or, if still

in the service, his present rank), the date and cause of his discharge, the company and regiment or ship to which he belongs or belonged, the length of time he served ; if wounded, when, in what engagement, in what manner and degree, and the fact of any previous application, and to what Post it was made.

SEC. 2. The application shall be presented at a stated meeting, and be recommended by a member of the Post, who shall vouch for the applicant's eligibility; it shall then be referred to a committee of three, of which number the member recommending shall not be one, for investigation and report.

SEC. 3. The committee shall make careful investigation of the facts set forth in the application ; they shall see the applicant in person, and shall recommend his election or rejection, at a meeting subsequent to their appointment, by endorsement upon the application: *Provided, however,* That the Commander-in-Chief or a Department Commander may grant a dispensation in writing to a Post to waive in any particular case the rule prohibiting an investigation committee from reporting upon an application on the evening of their appointment.

An application favorably reported by the Committee may be withdrawn by a majority vote of the Post before ballot, upon request of the applicant or of the comrade presenting his application.

SEC. 4. After the reading of the report, the Commander shall give opportunity to any comrade having objections to the election of the applicant to state the same, after which a ballot with ball ballots shall be had. If, on a count of the balls deposited, it appear that not more than twenty are cast, and two or more of them are black, the candidate shall be declared rejected ; but if more than twenty are cast, then an additional black ball for every additional twenty shall be necessary to reject. If a less number of black balls than above provided be cast, the candidate shall be declared elected, and no reconsideration of a ballot shall be had after the Commander has announced the result thereof. But should the result of the ballot be unfavorable, and the Commander suspect any mistake, he may at his discretion, before declaring the vote, order a second ballot, the result of which shall be final.

SEC. 5. If an applicant be rejected, his admission fee shall be returned, and he shall not be eligible to admission to the Grand Army of the Republic until six months after such rejection. He shall not be eligible to membership in any other Post without the consent, by a two thirds vote, of the Post rejecting



him. A second, and all subsequent applications, shall be in the same form, and subject to the same conditions, as the first.

SEC. 6. The name of a rejected applicant shall be forwarded to National Headquarters through the proper channel.

SEC. 7. Each applicant, upon his election, shall be at once notified thereof in writing; and, on presenting himself for membership shall be properly mustered;

But unless he presents himself for muster within three months from the date of such notice, his election, shall be void, and all moneys which may have been required by the Post to accompany the application shall be forfeited to the Post treasury.

The Commander-in-Chief or a Department Commander may, however, grant a dispensation in any particular case to a Post to muster a candidate, even though he has *not* presented himself for muster within three months after notice of election.

SEC. 8. A member elect shall pay, before enlistment and muster, an admission fee of not less than one dollar. Upon muster-in, he shall subscribe to a copy of these Regulations, and of the By-Laws of the Post; and receive from the Post a membership badge, the cost thereof being added to the muster fee. Comrades are forbidden to wear any other membership badge than that obtained, through the proper channels, from National Headquarters.

SEC. 9. The Commander-in-Chief or a Department Commander may, at pleasure, receive and muster in an applicant for membership, or detail a comrade for that purpose, provided the person so received and mustered in resides outside the proper territorial limits of any Post.

SEC. 10.\* The applications for membership of persons who were comrades before the introduction of the grade system, but who never took the obligation of the third grade, shall be received and acted upon the same as if the applicant had never belonged to the Grand Army.

### ARTICLE III.

#### ADMISSION OF COMRADES FROM OTHER POSTS.

SECTION I. A comrade having a valid transfer card may be re-admitted to the Post which granted the same, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, at a regular meeting, or he may be admitted to another Post after his name has been proposed, referred and reported upon as in case of an applicant for membership, and upon receiving a two-thirds

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\* Adopted at the session of 1875.

vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting, or he may be admitted a charter member of a new Post.

SEC. 2. Each Post may establish such admission fees, to be paid by comrades joining by transfer, as they may think proper, not exceeding the amount required from recruits.

## ARTICLE IV.

### LEAVES OF ABSENCE, TRANSFERS AND DISCHARGES.

SECTION I. Any comrade applying therefor, in person or by letter, shall be granted a leave of absence by the Commander, attested by the Adjutant, for a specified time, not exceeding twelve months, commending him to the good offices of all comrades, provided he has faithfully discharged all duties enjoined upon him, and has paid in advance all dues for the time specified in the leave of absence. Any post giving relief to a visiting comrade shall endorse the amount upon his leave of absence, and shall also notify thereof the Post of which he is a member.

SEC. 2. Any comrade against whom no charges exist, and who has paid all dues, shall receive, upon verbal or written application to the Commander, at a meeting of the Post, a transfer card attested by the Adjutant. Upon presentation of it to any Post within one year from date of its issue, he may be admitted in the manner prescribed in Article III. of this chapter. In the meantime he shall remain, for purposes of discipline only, under the jurisdiction of the Post granting the transfer card. If at the expiration of a year he has not been admitted to membership in any Post, the transfer card shall be void, and the holder be considered as honorably discharged from the Order.

SEC. 3. Any comrade in good standing, on application to the Post Commander at a regular meeting, shall receive at some subsequent meeting an honorable discharge, signed by the Post Commander and attested by the Adjutant: *Provided*, That at the time of such application there are no pecuniary charges against him on account of the Post. A comrade thus discharged can be re-admitted by filing a new application, to be regularly referred and reported on, and upon receiving a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting, he shall be admitted without re-muster, on taking *anew* the obligation.

SEC. 4. Members of disbanded Posts, who were in good standing at the time of such dissolution, shall receive from the

Assistant Adjutant General of the Department transfer cards, which shall have full force.

## ARTICLE V.

### MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The stated meetings of each Post shall be held at least monthly.

SEC. 2. Special meetings may be convened by order of the Post Commander.

SEC. 3. Eight members qualified to transact business shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Post.

SEC. 4. Posts may by By-Laws or Rules of Order, provide for an adjournment of Post meetings, before completing the Order of Business prescribed in the Ritual.

## ARTICLE VI.

### OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of each Post shall be a Post Commander, a Senior Vice Post Commander, a Junior Vice Post Commander, an Adjutant, a Quartermaster, a Surgeon, a Chaplain, an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, a Sergeant-Major and a Quartermaster-Sergeant.

SEC. 2. All members of the Post in good standing shall be eligible to any office in the Post.

SEC. 3. Posts may elect a Trustee or Trustees not exceeding three in number, to be Trustee or Trustees of the Post, and the same number to be Trustee or Trustees of the Relief Fund of the Post, who shall hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified.

## ARTICLE VII.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The Post Officers (the Adjutant, Sergeant-Major and Quartermaster-Sergeant excepted) shall be elected at the first stated meeting in December, by ballot, unless a ballot be dispensed with by unanimous consent. They shall be installed in their respective offices at the first stated meeting in January following.

At the installation of officers the Post Commander shall appoint the Adjutant, and, upon the recommendation of the Adjutant and Quartermaster respectively, he shall also appoint the Sergeant-Major and the Quartermaster-Sergeant. They shall enter upon their duties at once, and all officers, whether elected or appointed, shall hold office until their successors are installed. And such installation may be conducted publicly at a special meeting to be held for that purpose, when no part of the opening or closing services or signs of recognition shall be used.

SEC. 2. In case of a ballot for officers, a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice. If there is no election on the first two ballots, the name of the comrade receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and so on in successive ballots until an election is made.

SEC. 3. Posts may fill any vacancy in their offices at any stated meeting, notice of such contemplated action having been given at a previous meeting.

A Post may, by a two-thirds vote, declare vacant the position of any officer who has absented himself for four consecutive stated meetings, provided that notice has been duly given the delinquent officer, and notice of the intended action has been given to the members of the Post.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Post Commander to preside at all meetings of the Post, to enforce a strict observance of the Rules and Regulations and By-Laws, and all orders from proper authority, to detail all officers and committees not otherwise provided for, to approve all orders drawn upon the Quartermaster for appropriations of money made and passed at a stated meeting of the Post, to forward the returns required by Chap. V., Art. II., and to perform such other duties as his charge may require of him.

SEC. 2. The Vice Post Commanders shall perform such duties as are required of them by the Ritual, and, in the absence of the Commander, shall take his place in the order of their rank. If neither of them is present, the Post shall elect a Commander *pro tempore*.

SEC. 3. The Adjutant shall keep in books properly prepared:

1. The Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the

Republic and the By-Laws of the Post, to be signed by every comrade on his becoming a member.

2. A Descriptive Book, ruled to embrace every fact contained in the application, as well as the date of acceptance and muster, and a column for general remarks.

3. A Journal of the Proceedings of the Post, after the same shall have been corrected and approved.

4. An Order Book, in which shall be recorded all orders and circulars issued by the Post Commander.

5. A Letter Book.

6. An Indorsement and Memorandum Book.

7. A Black Book, in which shall be recorded the names of all rejected candidates, also of all members of the Grand Army who have been dishonorably discharged.

He shall attest by his signature all actions of the Post, and draw all orders on the Quartermaster, to be approved by the Post Commander; shall notify in writing newly-elected members, and shall, under the direction of the Post Commander, prepare all reports and returns required of him. He shall perform such other duties as appertain to his office, and shall transfer to his successor, without delay, all books, papers and other property.

SEC. 4. The Quartermaster shall hold the funds, securities, vouchers and other property of the Post, and fill all requisitions drawn by the Adjutant and approved by the Post Commander; he shall collect all moneys due the Post, giving his receipt therefor; he shall keep an account with each member, and notify all comrades in arrears; he shall render a monthly account in writing to the Post of its finances, which shall be referred to an auditing committee appointed by the Post. He shall make and deliver to the Post Commander all reports and returns required of Post Quartermasters by Chap. V, Art. II., and shall deliver to his successor in office, or to any one designated by the Post, all moneys, books, and other property of the Post in his possession or under his control. He shall give security for the faithful discharge of his duties as provided in Chap. V., Art. VII.

SEC. 5. The Surgeon shall discharge such duties in connection with his office as may be required of him.

SEC. 6. The Chaplain shall officiate at the opening of the Post, and at the funeral of comrades when attended by the Post, and perform such other duties in connection with his office as the Post may require.

SEC. 7. The Officer of the Day and the Officer of the

Guard shall perform such duties as may be required by the Ritual or by the Post Commander.

SEC. 8 The Sergeant-Major and Quartermaster-Sergeant shall assist the Adjutant and Quartermaster, respectively, in their duties.

SEC. 9. Trustees of the Post shall have the care, custody and management of such property of the Post as the Post, by vote, shall place in their possession or under their control, subject to the direction of the Post as to the management and investment; and all leases or conveyances of lands or buildings, by or to the Posts, shall be in the names of such Trustees and their successors in office.

SEC. 10. Trustees of the Relief Fund shall have the care, custody and management of the Relief Fund of the Post, subject to the direction of the Post, and all investments of the Relief Fund shall be in the names of such Trustees and their successors in office.

SEC. 11. Posts may make By-Laws regulating the manner in which Trustees of the Posts or Relief Fund shall perform their duties, and respecting the reports of such Trustees.

SEC. 12. No change shall be made by the Trustees in any investment of Posts or Relief Funds, or in the title to Post or Relief Fund property, or any money paid therefrom, without the concurrence in writing of all the Trustees.

SEC. 13. The Quartermaster of the Post shall turn over to the Trustees such property and funds of the Post as the Post by vote may direct.

## ARTICLE IX.

### REPRESENTATIVES.

Each Post shall at the first stated meeting in December, annually, elect, from its own members, representatives and an equal number of alternates to the Department Encampment, in the manner prescribed in Chap. III., Art. II.

## ARTICLE X.

### BY-LAWS.

Posts may adopt By-Laws for their government, not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations or the By-Laws or Orders of the National or Department Encampments, and may provide for the alteration or amendment thereof.

## CHAPTER III.

## DEPARTMENTS.

## ARTICLE I.

## ORGANIZATION.

SECTION 1. Not less than six Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic in any Provisional Department may be organized as a Department, by the Commander-in-Chief, upon their application, as provided in Chap. V., Art. X.: *Provided*, That the Commander-in-Chief, when satisfied, upon proper representation, that a State or Territory has not a sufficient number of soldiers and sailors to organize six Posts, may organize a Department with a less number of Posts.

SEC. 2. Each Department shall be governed by a Department Encampment, subordinate to the National Encampment.

## ARTICLE II.

## MEMBERSHIP.

The Department Encampment shall consist of :

*First.*—The Department Commander, all Past Department Commanders who have served for a full term of one year, or who, having been elected to fill a vacancy, shall have served to the end of the term, so long as they remain in good standing in their respective Posts, and the other officers mentioned in Art. IV., Sec. 2, of this chapter, and all Past Post Commanders who have served for a full term of one year, or who, having been elected to fill a vacancy, shall have served to the end of the term, so long as they remain in good standing in their respective Posts, in such Departments as have so decided by a two-thirds vote at an annual meeting.

*Second.*—All the Post Commanders for the time being throughout its jurisdiction (in the absence of the Post Commander the Senior or Junior Vice-Commander may represent the Post).

*Third.*—Members selected by ballot by the several Posts, in such ratio as may be determined “by a two-third vote of the members present and voting at any previous Annual Encampment.” These elected members, and an equal number of alternates, shall be chosen at the time and in the mode of electing officers of Posts, at the first stated meeting in December, and shall serve during the year, commencing on the first day of January following. Any vacancies that may occur shall be filled in the same manner as provided in Chap. II., Art. VII., Sec. 3.

They shall be furnished with credentials signed by the Post Commander and Post Adjutant, a copy of which shall be forwarded immediately after the election to the Assistant Adjutant General of the Department. But all Posts in arrears for reports or dues shall be excluded, for the time being, from representation, either by Post Commander or otherwise, in the Department Encampment.

*Fourth.*—The number of representatives to which each Post is entitled shall be determined by the quarterly report last preceding the election.\*

## ARTICLE III.

### MEETINGS.

SECTION I. There shall be an annual meeting of each Department Encampment between January first and May first of each year, and a semi-annual meeting, if so determined at the annual meeting of the Department or by the Council of Administration.

SEC. 2. Special meetings may be convened by order of the Commander, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Administration, provided that no business except that specified in the order for such special meeting shall be transacted thereat; and no alterations affecting the general interests of the Department shall be made at a special meeting.

## ARTICLE IV.

### OFFICERS.

SECTION I. All members of the Grand Army of the Republic in good standing shall be eligible to any office in their Department.

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\* Based on return for September 30th.



SEC. 2. The officers of each Department shall be a Commander, a Senior Vice-Commander, a Junior Vice-Commander, an Assistant Adjutant-General, an Assistant Quartermaster-General, an Inspector, a Judge-Advocate, a Chief Mustering Officer, a Medical Director, a Chaplain and a Council of Administration, consisting of the above-named officers and five members by election.

## ARTICLE V.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SECTION I. These officers, except the Assistant Adjutant-General, the Assistant Quartermaster-General, the Inspector, the Judge Advocate, and the Chief Mustering Officer, shall be chosen at the annual meeting of the Department Encampment in each year, by ballot, in the manner prescribed for the election by ballot of officers of Posts in Chap. II., Art. VII., of these Regulations.

SEC. 2. The officers thus elected shall enter upon their respective duties immediately after the adjournment of the meeting at which they were chosen, and shall hold office until their successors are duly installed.

SEC. 3. All vacancies in elective offices may be filled by the Council of Administration.

## ARTICLE VI.

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION I. The Department Commander shall, immediately after entering upon his office, appoint an Assistant Adjutant-General, an Assistant Quartermaster-General, an Inspector, a Judge-Advocate, and a Chief Mustering Officer, and may remove these officers at his pleasure. He may appoint as many Assistant Inspectors, on the nomination of the Inspector of the Department, and as many Aides-de-Camp as he may deem necessary. He shall preside at all meetings of the Department Encampment and Council of Administration, shall forward the reports and dues to National Headquarters, and see that all orders received from thence are properly published and obeyed, shall issue suitable charters to all Posts organized in his Department, and perform such other duties as are incumbent on officers of like position.

SEC. 2. The Vice Commanders shall assist the Commander, by counsel or otherwise, and in his absence or disability they shall fill his office according to seniority.

SEC. 3. The Assistant Adjutant General shall keep correct records of the proceedings of the Department Encampment and of the Council of Administration; he shall conduct the correspondence and issue all orders under direction of the Commander; draw all requisitions upon the Assistant Quartermaster-General, make out all returns to the National Headquarters and transmit the same, through the Department Commander, to the Adjutant-General; countersign all charters issued by the Commander, keep an Order Book, a Letter Book, an Indorsement and Memorandum Book, and files of all orders, reports and correspondence received and remaining in his office, and perform such other duties, and keep such other records in connection with his office, as may be required of him by the Commander or the Department Encampment. He shall receive, as compensation for his services, such sum as the Department Encampment may, from time to time, determine.

SEC. 4. The Assistant Quartermaster-General shall hold the funds, securities vouchers and property of the Department and fill all requisitions drawn by the Assistant Adjutant-General and approved by the Commander, and shall give good and sufficient security, to be approved by the Council of Administration for the faithful discharge of his duties.

SEC. 5. The Inspector shall perform such duties as are prescribed in Chap. V., Art. V., and shall receive such compensation for his services as the Department Encampment shall from time to time determine.

SEC. 6. The Judge Advocate and the Chief Mustering Officer shall perform the duties properly belonging to their officers.

SEC. 7. The Medical Director shall require such returns from Post Surgeons as may be needed and called for by the Surgeon-General, and shall make returns to that officer.

SEC. 8. The Chaplain shall perform such duties in connection with his office as the Commander of the Department may require of him.

SEC. 9. The Council of Administration shall have charge of the working interests of the Department, shall audit the accounts of the various officers, shall keep a full and detailed record of its proceedings, and shall present the same for the consideration of the Department Encampment at each stated meeting thereof.

SEC. 10. The various staff officers shall make, to the Department Encampment at each stated meeting, full and complete reports in writing of the operations of their Departments, and when retiring from office, shall deliver to their successors all moneys, books and other property of the Department in their possession or under their control.

## ARTICLE VII.

### APPEALS.

All members shall have the right of appealing through the proper channels from acts of the Posts or Post Commanders, and Department Commanders or Encampments to the next highest authority, and to the Commander-in-Chief, whose decisions shall be final, unless reversed by the National Encampment, but all decisions appealed from shall have full force and effect until reversed by competent authority.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### VOTING.

Each member present at a meeting of the Department Encampment shall be entitled to one vote. The ayes and noes may be required by any three members representing different Posts.

## ARTICLE IX.

### REPRESENTATIVES.

Representatives to the National Encampment, shall be chosen from comrades of the Department, as provided in Chap. IV., Art II., of these Regulations.

## ARTICLE X.

### BY-LAWS.

Department Encampments may adopt By-Laws for the government of the Departments not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations, or the By-Laws or orders of the National Encampment, and may provide for the alterations and amendment thereof.

## CHAPTER IV.

## NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

## ARTICLE I.

The supreme power of this association shall be lodged in the National Encampment.

## ARTICLE II.

## MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION I. The National Encampment shall be composed:—

*First.*—Of the Commander-in-Chief, Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past Vice Commanders-in-Chief, so long as they remain in good standing in their respective Posts, and the other officers named in Art. IV., Sec. 2, of this chapter.

*Second.*—Of the Commanders, Vice-Commanders, and Assistant Adjutants-General of the several Departments, and the Commander and Assistant Adjutant-General of each Provisional Department for the time being (for whom no proxy or substitute can act).

*Third.*—Of Past Department Commanders who have served for a full term of one year, or who, having been elected to fill a vacancy, shall have served to the end of the term, so long as they remain in good standing in their several Posts, and

*Fourth.*—Of one representative-at-large from each Department, and one representative for each one thousand members in good standing therein, and one additional representative for a final fraction of more than one-half of that number; such representatives to be elected by the Department Encampment as provided in Chap. III., Art. IX. Any Department having less than one thousand members and more than five hundred, shall be entitled to one representative in addition to one representative-at-large.

SEC. 2. The representatives shall be elected at the time and in the mode of electing officers of Departments, and their

number shall be ascertained and fixed by the last preceding return of members entitled to be counted in representation, as filed with the Adjutant-General. Each Department shall also elect, in the same manner, and at the same time, an equal number of alternates. They shall be furnished with credentials signed by the Commander and Assistant Adjutant-General, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Adjutant-General immediately after their election. Any vacancies occurring by written resignations, that may exhaust the list of alternates entitled to serve in place of absent representatives, may be filled by the Department Council of Administration, duly called and sitting within its own jurisdiction. Such alternates shall serve in the order of their election.

SEC. 3. Whenever Posts are in arrears, their entire membership shall not be counted for representation in the National Encampment.

SEC. 4. Departments and Provisional Departments in arrears for reports or dues shall be excluded from all representation in the National Encampment until the same are forwarded.

### ARTICLE III.

#### MEETINGS.

SEC. 1. The stated meeting of the National Encampment shall be held annually between April and November, as may be fixed by the Commander-in-Chief by consent of the Council of Administration, and at such place as shall have been determined at the previous stated meeting.

SEC. 2. Special meetings may be convened by order of the Commander-in-Chief, by and with the advice and consent of the National Council of Administration.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. All members in good standing shall be eligible to any national office in the Grand Army of the Republic.

SEC. 2. The National officers of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be a Commander-in-Chief, a Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, a Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, an Adjutant-General, a Quartermaster-General, an Inspector-General, a Judge-Advocate-General, a Surgeon-General, a Chaplain-in-Chief, and a Council of Administration, consisting of the above-

named officers and one comrade from each Department, to be chosen by the National Encampment.

## ARTICLE V.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The National officers of the Grand Army of the Republic, except the Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General, the Inspector-General and the Judge-Advocate-General shall be elected annually, by ballot, at the stated meeting of the National Encampment, in the manner prescribed for the election by ballot of officers of Posts in Chap. II., Art. VII., Sec. 2.

SEC. 2. They shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices immediately after the adjournment of the meeting at which they were elected, and shall hold office until their successors are duly installed.

SEC. 3. Vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled by the Council of Administration.

## ARTICLE VI.

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The Commander-in-Chief shall enforce the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the orders of the National Encampment and Council of Administration, and for this purpose he may issue such orders as may be necessary.

He shall preside in the National Encampment and Council of Administration, decide all questions of law or usage, subject to an appeal to the National Encampment; approve all requisitions properly drawn on the Quartermaster-General, and shall hold all securities given by National Officers, as trustee for the Grand Army of the Republic. He shall appoint, immediately after entering upon his office, the Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General, the Inspector-General, the Judge-Advocate-General; an Assistant Adjutant-General, as many Assistant Inspectors-General on the nomination of the Inspector-General and as many Aides-de-Camp as he may deem necessary. He shall appoint all other national officers and committees not otherwise provided for and may remove these officers at his pleasure. He shall promulgate through the proper officers the national countersign, and may change the same at his discretion, and shall issue to all Departments regularly organized,

suitable charters, and appoint Provisional Commanders in States and Territories where there is no Department organization.

SEC. 2. The Vice-Commanders-in-Chief shall assist the Commander-in-Chief by counsel or otherwise, and in his absence or disability, they shall fill his office according to seniority.

SEC. 3. The Adjutant-General shall keep correct records of the proceedings of the National Encampment and Council of Administration; he shall conduct its correspondence and issue the necessary orders, under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief. All returns received by him from Departments shall be turned over to the proper officers.

He shall prepare all books and blanks required for use of the Grand Army of the Republic, under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief. He shall draw requisitions on the Quartermaster-General, to be approved by the Commander-in-Chief, and shall perform such other duties, and keep such other books and records as the Commander-in-Chief or the National Encampment may require him. He shall give security for the faithful discharge of his duties, to be approved by the Commander-in-Chief, and shall receive as compensation for his service such sum as the National Encampment may, from time to time, determine.

SEC. 4. The Quartermaster-General shall hold the funds, securities and vouchers of the National Encampment, and fill all requisitions drawn upon him by the Adjutant-General and approved by the Commander-in-Chief. He shall distribute all books and blanks required for the use of the Grand Army of the Republic, and, under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief charge a reasonable and uniform price for the same\* He shall give good and sufficient security, in a sum to be approved by the Council of Administration, for the faithful discharge of his duties, and shall receive such compensation for his services as the National Encampment may from time to time determine.

SEC. 5. The Inspector-General shall perform such duties as are required of him by Chap. V., Art. V., and shall receive such compensation for his services as the National Encampment may, from time to time, determine.

SEC. 6. The Surgeon-General shall perform the duties properly appertaining to that office.

SEC. 7. The Chaplain-in-Chief shall perform such duties in connection with his office as the Commander-in-Chief or the National Encampment may require.

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\*Blanks for reports to be furnished free.—Res. of Nat. Encampment, 1877.

SEC. 8. The Judge-Advocate-General shall perform the duties belonging to that office.

SEC. 9. The National Council of Administration shall meet at such place as may be determined by the National Encampment at their stated meeting, and at such other times and places as the Commander-in-Chief may order, and ten members shall constitute a quorum.\* It shall audit the accounts of the various national officers, may propose plans of action, and shall represent, in all matters, the National Encampment in the interval between its sessions. It shall keep full and detailed records of its proceedings, and present the same as its report at the stated meeting of the National Encampment, for the consideration of that body.

SEC. 10. The several staff officers shall present to the National Encampment, at each annual session, full and detailed reports in print,† of the operations of their respective Departments, and when retiring from their office shall deliver to their successors all moneys, books and other property of the Grand Army of the Republic in their possession, or under their control.

## ARTICLE VII.

### VOTING.

Each member present at a meeting of the National Encampment shall be entitled to one vote. The ayes and noes may be required, and entered upon record at the call of any three members representing different Departments.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### DISBURSEMENTS.

Disbursements from the treasury of the National Encampment shall only be in behalf of the objects of the Grand Army of the Republic, or its incidental expenses, and shall be made either by direction of the National Encampment or Council of Administration. All requisitions for money must be drawn by the Adjutant-General and approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

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\* The C. of A., by resolution of N. E., 1877, is directed to meet immediately after adjournment of Encampment, and may select a smaller number to act during the interim.

† To be made for the year ending December 31st.—Resolution of National Encampment, 1870.



## CHAPTER V.

## GENERAL RULES.

## ARTICLE I.

## CHARTERS.

SECTION 1. All Post Charters shall be signed by the Commander and countersigned by the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department within which the applicants for such charter reside. The application for a charter shall be signed by at least ten persons eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, as provided in Chap. II., Art. I., and shall be accompanied by a charter fee of ten dollars.

SEC. 2. On the receipt of such application, the Department Commander shall examine the qualifications of the applicants, and if satisfied of their eligibility, and that it is for the interest of the Grand Army of the Republic to form such Post, he shall, either in person or by some officer of the staff, proceed to admit the applicants into the Grand Army of the Republic, superintend the election of the Post officers for the remainder of the current year, and complete the organization of the Post: *Provided*,\* That any comrades who have been refused a charter for a Post, by a Department Commander, may appeal to the Commander-in-Chief, and he, with the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Administration, is empowered to order the Department Commander to issue the charter.

SEC. 3. Post charters may be surrendered voluntarily when less than ten members desire the continuance of the Post, as provided in Chap. II., Art. I. In case of surrender or forfeiture of a charter, the property of the Department, including books of record and Post papers, shall be immediately turned over to the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department, and shall be subject to the disposition of the Department Encampment.

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\* Proviso added by Nat. Enc., St. Louis, 1887.

SEC. 4. Charters of Posts may be suspended or annulled by the Department Commander, with the advice and consent of the Council of Administration.

SEC. 5. Charters of Departments shall be signed by the Commander-in-Chief, and countersigned by the Adjutant-General, and shall be issued to each Department immediately upon the permanent organization thereof.

Each Department shall forward to the Adjutant-General therefor a charter fee of twenty dollars.

SEC. 6. The National Encampment, at its annual session, or the Commander-in Chief, with the consent of the Council of Administration, may at any time revoke the charter of a Department, which for three-quarters of a year has failed to forward its reports or dues, and may remand such a Department to a provisional condition.\*

## ARTICLE II.

### RETURNS AND REPORTS.

SECTION I. Each Post Commander shall make quarterly returns† to the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department on the first days of January, April, July and October. He shall, at the same time, forward the names of all members of his Post, in good standing, who have held the position of Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, of the National Encampment, or of Department Commander, and a list of the names of rejected applicants. The name of a person dishonorably discharged shall be forwarded at once.

SEC. 2. The Assistant Adjutant-General of each Department shall, on receipt of returns, note thereon the date of reception, and turn over the Quartermaster's and Surgeon's returns to the Assistant Quartermaster-General and Medical Director respectively. He shall consolidate the quarterly returns of the Post Adjutants within twenty days after the beginning of each quarter, for the information of the Department Commander, and shall prepare a copy, on blanks of Form C, of such consolidated return, to be forwarded by the Department Commander to the Adjutant-General on or before the 20th day of each quarter. This report shall also contain a list of the

\*The National Encampment recommended that Posts delinquent for twenty days should be published in General Orders. Page 803, Journal of 1881.

† Post Adjutant's Report, Form A; Post Quartermaster's Report, Form B.

names of all the Past Officers of the National Encampment entitled to membership therein, reported as in good standing in the several Posts of his Department. He shall also make such supplemental reports as may be required by National Headquarters.

SEC. 3. The Adjutant-General shall, on receipt of returns, note thereon the date of reception, and turn over to the Quartermaster-General and Surgeon-General the returns belonging to their respective offices. He shall consolidate the returns of the Assistant Adjutant-General, for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, and shall present a copy of such consolidated returns to the annual session of the National Encampment.

SEC. 4. The Quartermaster of each Post shall, through the Post Commander, make a quarterly return to the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department on the first days of January, April, July and October, on blanks of Form B.

SEC. 5. These returns shall be consolidated by the Assistant Quartermaster-General within twenty days after the beginning of each quarter, and such consolidated return shall be forwarded by the Department Commander to the Adjutant-General, a copy thereof being retained, for the information of the Department Commander, on blanks of Form D. He shall also make such supplemental reports as he may be required by National Headquarters.

SEC. 6. The quarterly returns of Assistant Quartermasters-General shall be consolidated by the Quartermaster-General for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, and a copy thereof shall be presented by the Quartermaster General to the National Encampment at its annual session.

### ARTICLE III.

#### DUES AND REVENUE.

SECTION 1. The National Encampment, at its annual session, shall assess a *per capita* tax on each Department, not exceeding twenty-five cents per annum on each and every member in good standing therein. Such tax shall be payable in four quarterly installments, and shall be forwarded by the Department Commander to the Quartermaster-General on or before the twentieth day of April, July, October, and January. The amount of the quarterly tax due from each Department shall be ascertained from the number of members in good

standing therein, reported in the consolidated return made to the Adjutant-General on the twentieth day of the current quarter.

SEC. 2. Each Department Encampment, at its session in January, shall assess a *per capita* tax on each and every Post in its jurisdiction, not exceeding one dollar per annum on each member in good standing therein. This tax shall include the tax due the National Encampment from the Department, and shall be forwarded by the Post Commander to the Assistant Quartermaster-General, in quarterly installments, on the first days of January, April, July, and October. The amount of the quarterly installments due from each Post shall be determined by the number of members in good standing therein, as reported in return of the Post Commander, made on the first day of the current quarter.

SEC. 3. Each Post, either by its By-Laws or by a vote at the last meeting in December, may assess a *per capita* tax upon its members, payable in equal quarterly installments, on the first days of January, April, July, and October.

## ARTICLE IV.

### ARREARAGES.

SECTION I. Any Department in arrears for reports or dues shall be deprived of all representation in the National Encampment until the same are forwarded.

SEC. 2. Any Post in arrears for returns or dues shall be excluded from all representation in the Department Encampment until the same are forwarded.

SEC. 3. Any member of a Post who is six months in arrears in the payment of his dues, shall be notified thereof in writing by the Post Quartermaster, and if the same are not paid within two months thereafter, he may be suspended from all privileges of membership by vote of the Post, and be then so reported in the quarterly reports to Department Headquarters, until such dues are paid. While so suspended, the Post shall not be subject to the *per capita tax* on such member, and he shall not be counted in the representation of the Post in the Encampment of the Department, nor of the Department in the National Encampment: *Provided, however,* That when a comrade is unable by reason of sickness or misfortune to pay his dues, they may be remitted by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a stated meeting of Post.

SEC. 4. If a member of a Post shall be one year in arrears for dues, he shall be notified thereof in writing by the Post Quartermaster, and on failure for two months thereafter to pay such dues, he may, by vote of the Post, be dropped from the rolls, unless relieved from such payment, and can be re-instated only by the Post which dropped him, by a two-thirds vote by ballot of all the members present and voting at a stated meeting, upon payment of a sum to be prescribed by By-Laws of the Post, said sum not to be less than the amount charged for muster-in-fee.\* If elected, he shall be re-obligated: *Provided*, That he may be re-obligated in any Post within whose jurisdiction he may reside, upon the written request of the Post re-instating him. Application for re-instatement shall be made by filing a new application, to be regularly referred and reported on. If the Post from which a member in arrears has been dropped, has been disbanded, he may make application to another Post.

A comrade dropped as aforesaid, whose application for re-instatement has been rejected, upon payment to the Quartermaster of the Post which dropped him, of the amount of his dues at the date of being dropped, shall receive from the Quartermaster a receipt therefor, stated as dues of comrade—, dropped and refused re-instatement, and such comrade may make application, as provided in Art. II., Chap. II., of these Regulations, accompanied by the receipt aforesaid to another Post, and may be admitted to membership upon payment of the muster fee and being mustered in as a recruit.

SEC. 5. The provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of this article shall not apply to any comrade in the service of the United States, † and on duty at a distance from the Post in which he is a member.

## ARTICLE V.

### INSPECTION.

SECTION I. There shall be a thorough inspection of each Post every year, to be made by the Assistant-Inspector, Department officer or other comrade assigned to such duty, the report of the same to be made to the Inspector of the Department immediately thereafter.

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\* If the applicant be rejected, he may apply again after a lapse of six months. His name is not to be published.—Res. Nat. Encampment, 1880.

† Applying only to comrades in the Military, Naval, or Marine service. Res. Nat. Enc. Sept. 30, 1887.

Such additional inspection shall be made as the Commander may deem necessary, on the recommendation of the Inspector, or when directed by the Inspector-General.

The Inspector shall consolidate the reports of his assistants for the information of the Commander, and shall furnish copies of such consolidated reports to the Inspector-General.

SEC. 2. The Commander of each Department shall divide his Department into such number of Inspection Districts as he deems necessary, changing the same at his discretion.

He shall, on the nomination of the Inspector, appoint comrades as Assistant Inspectors, who shall be assigned to duty and act as such during the pleasure of the Commander.

SEC. 3. Assistant Inspectors-General shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief on the nomination of the Inspector-General. They shall make inspections of the various staff officers of the Departments whenever required, and shall report the result of the same immediately to the Inspector-General, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of them by the Commander-in-Chief or Inspector-General.

SEC. 4. The Inspector-General shall prescribe the form of blanks\* to be used for the inspection of Posts, and with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, may give such special instructions in reference to inspections as may be deemed necessary. He shall prepare an abstract of the reports received from Departments, for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, and present a report to the National Encampment.

SEC. 5. All books, papers, accounts, records and proceedings, pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic, shall be subject to inspection at all times by the several inspecting officers in their respective districts.

## ARTICLE VI.†

### DISCIPLINE.

SECTION I. Offenses cognizable by the Grand Army of the Republic shall be:—

1. Disloyalty to the United States of America, or any other violation of the pledge given at the time of muster.
2. Disobedience of the Rules and Regulations, or of lawful orders.

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\* Form H. for Post inspectors; Form E. for return of Department Inspector.

† Governed by forms under COURT MARTIAL, in the MANUAL, by Res. of Nat. Encampment, 1879.

3. The commission of a scandalous offense against the laws of the land.

4. Conduct unbecoming a soldier and a gentleman in his relations to the Grand Army of the Republic.

5. Conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

SEC. 2. Penalties shall be either :—

1. Dishonorable discharge from the Grand Army of the Republic.

2. Degradation from office.

3. Suspension from membership for a specified period.

4. Fine, or,

5. Reprimand,

at the discretion of the court, subject to the review of the proper officer.

SEC. 3. All accusations shall be made in the form of charges and specifications, and shall be tried by courts-martial. Courts-martial may be ordered by Commanders of Posts or of Departments, or by the Commander-in-Chief, for the trial of alleged offenders in their respective jurisdictions. Members of Department Encampments and officers of Department staffs shall only be tried by courts convened by orders of the Department Commander, or higher authority. Members of the National Encampment and officers of the National staff shall only be tried by courts convened by order of the Commander-in-Chief.

SEC. 4. Courts-martial shall be governed in their mode of proceedings and rules of evidence by the Revised United States Army Regulations and established military usage, and such orders as may be issued from Headquarters: *Provided, however* That in the wilful absence of the accused, after due notice of the time and place of trial has been given to him, or left at his usual place of abode, the court may proceed in all respects as if he were present and had pleaded "not guilty."

SEC. 5. All members of the Grand Army of the Republic, when summoned, shall attend as witnesses before any court-martial, and their testimony shall be taken on their honor as comrades. The evidence of persons not members shall be taken under oath, when not inconsistent with the law of the place where the court is held. When such extra judicial oaths are forbidden by law, evidence of witnesses not members of the Grand Army of the Republic may be received, in the discretion of the court, on their honor as men; and the fact that they have not been sworn shall be considered by the court in deciding upon their credibility.

SEC. 6. No sentence of a court-martial shall be carried into execution until after the whole proceedings shall have been laid before the officer ordering the same, or his successor in office, for his confirmation or disapproval and orders in the case; and no sentence of dishonorable discharge from the Grand Army of the Republic, except by court-martial convened by order of the Commander-in-Chief, shall be carried into execution until after the whole proceedings shall have been laid before the officer next superior to the one ordering the court, for his confirmation or disapproval and orders thereon.

SEC. 7. Any comrade ordered for trial before a Post court-martial may request, in writing, to be tried by a general court, assigning his objections to a trial by the Post court. On receiving such request, the Post Commander shall forward the same to the Department Commander, with such endorsement as he shall see fit to make, together with the charges preferred. If the objections appear to be valid and well grounded, the Department Commander shall order a general court-martial for the trial of the case; but if, in his opinion, they should be insufficient, he shall return the request, with an endorsement to that effect, and the trial shall proceed as if no exception had been taken.

SEC. 8. When charges are preferred against any comrade holding office, the Department Commander, or Commander-in-Chief, in their respective jurisdictions, may suspend the accused from office. During the suspension of a Post Commander, or Department Commander, the office shall be filled by the Senior Vice-Commander.

SEC. 9. In case the accused is charged with an offence under Par. 3, Sec. 1, of this article, the record of his conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be *prima facie* evidence of his guilt of the offense of which he is so charged.

## ARTICLE VII.

### BONDS.

SECTION 1. Every Quartermaster shall give bonds in a sum to be named by the Post, with sufficient sureties, for the faithful discharge of his duties.

Trustees of Posts or Relief Funds may be required by the Post to give bonds in an amount to be fixed by the Post for the faithful discharge of the duties of their office.

SEC. 2. Every Assistant Quartermaster-General shall give



bonds in a sum to be named by the Council of Administration, with sufficient sureties, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

SEC. 3. The Quartermaster-General shall give bonds in the sum of five thousand dollars, with sufficient sureties, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

SEC. 4. The Adjutant-General shall give bonds in the sum of one thousand dollars, with sufficient sureties, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

SEC. 5. The bonds of the above-named officers shall be approved and held by their respective commanding officers as trustees for their several commands.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### TITLES OF ADDRESS.

In the meetings of the various bodies of the Grand Army of the Republic members shall be addressed only as "Comrades,"\* excepting when holding office, when they shall be addressed by the title of the office which they hold in the Grand Army of the Republic.

## ARTICLE IX.

### UNIFORM—BADGES.†

SECTION 1. Departments may adopt a uniform for their own members. Where no uniform is prescribed by a Department, each Post may adopt one.

SEC. 2. The membership badge‡ of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be, in form and material, that adopted at the special meeting of the National Encampment, in New York, October 27th, 1869, with the additional device prescribed and adopted by the National Encampment, in San Francisco, August 4th, 1886, and no other shall be worn as the badge of the Grand Army, except that prescribed for officers in Section 3, and for past officers in Section 4, and hereafter no membership badge shall be manufactured or issued, except in conformity

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\* Posts composed of members who served in the Naval or Marine service of the United States, may use the term "Shipmate," when they deem the same appropriate. *Res. Nat. Enc., 1887.*

† Members of the Grand Army of the Republic are strictly forbidden to use the badge of the Order, or the letters G. A. R., as a sign or advertisement for any private business whatsoever.—*Res. Nat. Encampment. St. Louis, Sep. 30, 1887.*

‡ The design of this badge is protected by Letters-Patent for the sole use of the Grand Army.

with the above: *Provided, however*, that the badges heretofore issued under the authority of the National Encampment may be worn.

SEC. 3. The badge designating official position\* in the Grand Army of the Republic, adopted at the meeting of the National Encampment held in New Haven, May 14th and 15th, 1873, and as amended by the National Encampment at St. Louis, September 30th, 1887, may be worn by all National, Department and Post officers in the Grand Army of the Republic, when on duty or on occasion of ceremony, and no shoulder-straps or other badge shall be worn to designate official position in the Grand Army of the Republic.

SEC. 4. Past officers may wear the strap of the official badge proper for the highest position they have held in the Grand Army, with a clasp upon the ribbon proper for such position, beneath the bronze eagle of the membership badge, to which the whole shall be pendant.

## ARTICLE X.

### PROVISIONAL DEPARTMENTS.

SECTION. 1. In States or Territories where the Grand Army of the Republic is not established, the Commander-in-Chief may appoint, and cause to be mustered in, a Provisional Commander, who shall appoint—with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief—from comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, a Senior and Junior Vice-Commander, an Assistant Adjutant-General and an Assistant Quartermaster-General. He may appoint four Aides-de-Camp. The Provisional Commander, the Senior and Junior Vice-Commanders, the Assistant Adjutant-General, the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and five comrades, selected by the Provisional Commander, shall constitute the Council of Administration. The officers thus appointed shall have, for the time being, all the powers and duties of permanent Department Officers, and make returns in accordance with Article II. of this chapter.

SEC. 2. When six Posts are organized in any Provisional Department, the Commander-in-Chief shall order a meeting of a Department Encampment. When so assembled it shall effect a permanent Department organization.

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\* For details, see page 35.

## ARTICLE XI.

## POLITICS.

No officer or comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic shall in any manner use this organization for partisan purposes, and no discussion of partisan questions shall be permitted at any of its meetings, nor shall any nomination for political office be made.

## ARTICLE XII.

## RELIEF FUND.

A relief fund for the assistance of needy soldiers, sailors and marines, and widows and orphans of deceased soldiers, sailors and marines, shall be established by the several Posts, and any donations to this fund shall be held sacred for such purpose.

## ARTICLE XIII.

## SECRECY.

SECTION 1. The Ritual and unwritten forms of the Grand Army of the Republic, the names of persons causing the rejection of candidates for membership, or any information as to the cause or means of such rejection, shall be kept secret ; but any part of the proceedings of Post Encampments may be published if ordered by vote of Post, approved by the Department Encampment, Department Commander or Commander-in-Chief, and any part of the proceedings of a Department Encampment may be published if ordered by the Encampment or Department Commander, or Commander-in-Chief ; and any part of the proceedings of the National Encampment may be published, if ordered by the National Encampment or Commander-in-Chief.

SEC. 2. Any comrade convicted of divulging any of the private affairs of the Grand Army of the Republic, or of violating any of the provisions of this article, shall be dishonorably discharged.

## ARTICLE XIV.

## MEMORIAL DAY.\*

The National Encampment hereby establishes a MEMORIAL DAY, to be observed by the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, on the thirtieth day of May, annually, in commemoration of the deeds of our fallen comrades. When such day occurs on Sunday, the preceding day shall be observed, except where, by legislative enactment, the succeeding day is made a legal holiday, when such day shall be observed.

## ARTICLE XV.

## ALTERATIONS AND AMENDMENTS. †

The Rules and Regulations, and the Ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic, shall only be altered or amended by the National Encampment, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular annual meeting thereof. But any section herein may be suspended, for the time being, at any annual meeting of the National Encampment, by a unanimous vote.

\* Resolution of National Encampment, 1877: "That the Grand Army of the Republic seeks thus to preserve the memories of those only who fought in defense of the national unity."

(Resolution of National Encampment, June 4, 1878:

"RESOLVED, That all Flags hoisted on Memorial Day, be at half-mast.")

† Proposed amendments to R. and R. must be presented to the A. G. in time to furnish each member a copy at least 30 days before the annual Encampment. Res. Encampment, June 18, 1879.

## OFFICIAL BADGES.

(SECTIONS 3 &amp; 4, ART. IX., CHAP. V., R. &amp; R.)

The following description of the official badge is from the report of the committee to the National Encampment at New Haven, 1873, with amendments adopted at St. Louis, September 30th, 1887.

“That this official badge consist of a miniature strap and ribbon, to which shall be pendant the bronze star of the membership badge; that this strap be one and one-half inches in length, one-half inch in width, enameled, with a border one-eighth of an inch in width, of gold or gilt, and on it be the insignia of official position in the Grand Army of the Republic, making use of the familiar star, eagle, leaf and bar of the old service: that the field in enamel be for the National and Department officers, black; for Post officers, dark blue.

“That the ribbon be one and one-half inches in length in the clear, and one and one-fourth inches in width; to be composed of the flag, as on membership badges, with a border of one-quarter of an inch on each side, the border to be in color, for National officers, buff; for Department officers, red (cherry), and for Post officers, light blue.

“That this badge be worn conspicuously on the left breast of the coat.

“That to distinguish the different Departments, a miniature shield in gold or gilt, with the Coat of Arms of the State, may be worn pendant to the strap.

The insignia of rank upon the strap are as follows:

For Commander-in-Chief, four silver stars.

For Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, three silver stars.

For Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Department Commanders, two silver stars.

For the official Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Surgeon-General, Provisional Department Commanders, Senior Vice-Department Commanders, one silver star.

For Junior Vice-Department Commanders, one gilt star.

For the official staff of the Department Commander, Medical Directors, Aides-de-Camp, and Assistant Adjutant-General to the Commander-in-Chief, Post Commanders, silver eagle.

For Senior Vice Post Commanders, Assistant Inspectors-General, Aides-de-Camp to Department Commanders, silver leaf.

For Junior Vice Post Commanders, Assistant Inspectors, Post Surgeons, gilt leaf.

For members of Council of Administration, silver letter "C."

For Chaplain-in-Chief, silver star and cross.

For Department Chaplains, large silver cross.

For Post Chaplains, small silver cross.

For Post Officers of the Day, two gilt bars.

For Post Adjutants and Quartermaster, one gilt bar.

For Officers of the Guard, vacant field.

For Past Officers, see Sec. 4, Art. IX., Chap. V., Rules and Regulations, page 30.

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Official badges must conform strictly to the above requirements, and special attention is called to the length, width, and color of ribbons.

# RULES OF ORDER

## FOR THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

### I. ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Opening of the National Encampment in due form.
2. Calling Roll of Officers.
3. Report of Committee on Credentials.
4. Calling roll of members.
5. Reports of officers, beginning with that of the Commander-in-Chief.
6. Appointment of committees, to consist of five members each, as follows :
  - 1st. Committee on Credentials for the following year, the Adjutant-General to be chairman.
  - 2d. Committee on Reports of Officers.
  - 3d. Committee on Rules and Regulations and Ritual.
7. Reception and reference of communications from Department Encampments, to be called according to seniority.
8. Reception and reference of communications from individuals.
9. Reports of committees.
10. Unfinished business.
11. New business.
12. Election and installation of officers.
13. At the second and each succeeding session, the minutes of the preceding session shall be read immediately after the opening ceremonies. This shall also be done before the closing exercises at the last session.
14. This order of business may be suspended at any time for a definite purpose, by a two-thirds vote of the National Encampment, to be taken without debate.

II. The Commander-in-Chief shall state every question properly presented to the National Encampment, and before putting it to vote shall ask, "Is the Encampment ready for the question?" Should no member offer to speak, he shall rise to put the question, and after he has risen no further discussion shall be in order.

III. The Commander-in-Chief may speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising for that purpose ; he shall announce all votes and decisions, and decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the National Encampment by any two members, which appeal, if required, shall be in writing.

IV. When an appeal is taken from the decision of the presiding officer, said officer shall surrender the chair to the officer next in rank, who shall put the question thus : " Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the National Encampment?"

V. When the decision of any vote is doubted, the Commander-in-Chief shall direct the Adjutant-General to count the vote in the affirmative and negative, and report the result to him.

VI. When two or more members rise to speak at the same time, the Commander-in-Chief will decide who is entitled to the floor.

VII. A motion must be seconded and stated by the Commander-in-Chief before any action thereon is in order, and if required by any two members, shall be reduced to writing.

VIII. A motion may be withdrawn by the mover and seconder before a vote is had thereon, and if withdrawn, no record thereof shall be made on the minutes.

IX. The name of a member making a motion or offering any business shall be entered on the minutes.

X. A division of a question containing two or more distinct propositions may be demanded by any member.

XI. When a member wishes to speak, he shall rise and respectfully address the Commander-in-Chief, confining his remarks to the question before the National Encampment, and avoiding personalities and unbecoming language.

XII. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, except by a call to order, or by a member to explain.

XIII. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same question, except for explanation when misrepresented ; nor longer than ten minutes at any time, without a vote of the National Encampment, to be taken without debate.

XIV. No member shall, in debate, impeach the motives of a fellow member, treat him with personal disrespect, or pass between him and the chair while he is speaking.

XV. Any conversation calculated to disturb a member while speaking, or to hinder the transaction of business, shall be deemed a violation of order, and if persisted in, shall incur censure.



XVI. On questions of order there shall be no debate, unless the Commander-in-Chief shall invite it, or unless an appeal is taken.

XVII. When a member is called to order, he shall at once take his seat until his point of order is decided.

XVIII. When a member is called to order for words spoken in debate, the objectionable words shall, if required, be reduced to writing.

XIX. When a question is before the National Encampment, the only motions in order shall be ;—

- 1st. To adjourn.
- 2d. To lay on the table.
- 3d. The previous question.
- 4th. To postpone indefinitely.
- 5th. To postpone to a definite period.
- 6th. To postpone.
- 7th. To refer.
- 8th. To amend.

To take precedence in the order named, and the first three to be decided without debate.

XX. When the previous question is moved and seconded, it shall preclude all other motions and debate. It shall be put in this form : " Shall the main question be now put ? " If decided in the affirmative, the vote shall be at once taken, without debate, and in the same order as if the previous question had not been ordered.

XXI. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, except

- 1st. While a member is speaking.
- 2d. While a vote is being taken.
- 3d. When to adjourn was the last preceding motion.

A motion to adjourn cannot be amended, but when to adjourn to a given time or place, it is open to amendment or debate.

XXII. The reading of any paper relating to the subject under consideration shall always be in order.

XXIII. When a blank is to be filled, the question shall be first taken on the highest sum or number, or longest time, or in the order of nomination if it is to be filled with the name of a person.

XXIV. The yeas and nays may be required and entered upon the minutes at the call of any three members representing different Departments, as provided in Chap. IV., Art. VII., Rules and Regulations.

XXV. When a matter is postponed indefinitely, it shall not again be in order at the same session of the National Encampment.

XXVI. But two amendments can be pending at the same time.

XXVII. A motion to reconsider shall be in order at any time during the same session of the National Encampment, but must be made by those voting with the majority, or those voting in the negative in the case of equal division. A motion to reconsider, once made and negatived, shall not be renewed at the same session.

XXVIII. All reports and resolutions must be submitted in writing, and when from a committee they must be signed by a majority of such committee.

XXIX. All members entitled to vote shall vote on all questions, unless excused by a vote of the National Encampment, to be taken without debate.

XXX. When a majority report is followed by a report from the minority of a committee, the former, after being read, shall lie upon the table until the latter is presented, after which, on motion, either may be considered.

XXXI. When a report has been read it shall be considered properly before the National Encampment, without any motion to accept.

XXXII. When a report is submitted with a resolution attached, action shall be had on the resolution only, unless the report be considered improper or incomplete, when it may be recommitted. When no resolution accompanies the report, such report may be altered or amended.

XXXIII. No report or resolution properly before the National Encampment shall be withdrawn without its permission, to be given or refused without debate.

XXXIV. Questions not debatable:—

- 1st. To adjourn, when to adjourn simply.
- 2d. To lay on the table.
- 3d. For the previous question.
- 4th. To take up any particular item of business.
- 5th. Granting leave to speak.
- 6th. Granting leave to withdraw a report or resolution.
- 7th. To excuse from voting.
- 8th. Questions of order where no appeal has been taken, or where the Commander-in-Chief has not invited discussion.

XXXV. These rules of order may be altered or amended at any regular session of the National Encampment, upon proposition in writing, and by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

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HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
MADISON WIS., September 25th, 1886.

I certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Rules and Regulations and Rules of Order of the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic.

EDMUND B. GRAY,  
*Adjutant-General.*



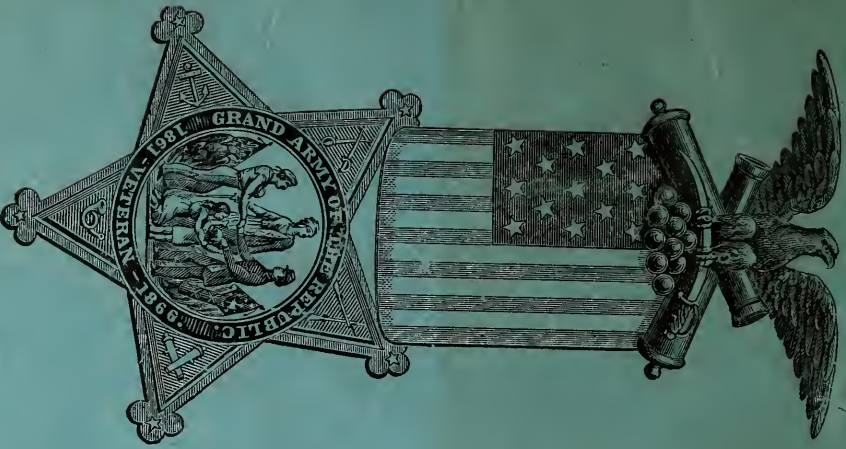




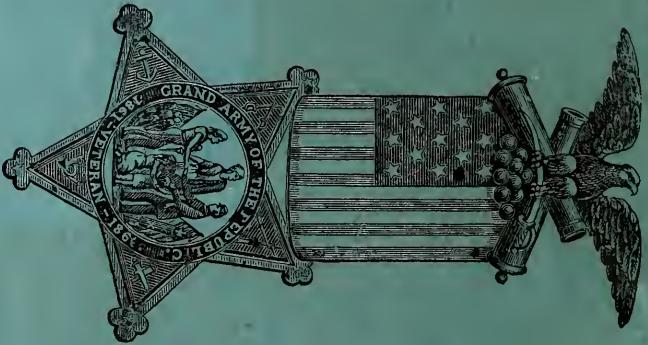




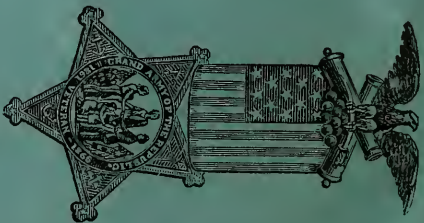
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DANIEL FISH,  
Adjutant-General.